

## MANAGING GENERAL AGENTS' ASSOCIATION

FSCS: The Scope and Delivery of Policyholder Protection – and the Role of the Industry

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Alex Kuczynski, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer Karl Jefferies, Insurance Claims Strategy Manager

## FSCS – The Scope and Delivery of Policyholder Protection – and the Role of the Industry

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- FSCS Ltd
- The Rules
- Policyholder Protection
- What we do
- Experience
- Current issues
- The Role of the Industry
- Funding
- Policyholder Data



## The FSCS (1)

- The Financial Services Compensation Scheme ("FSCS") is the UK's statutory fund of last resort for customers of authorised financial services firms
- Established under Part 15 of FSMA 2000
- FSCS is a set of rules made by the PRA and FCA
- Administered by FSCS Ltd the Scheme Manager
- We are accountable to, but operationally independent of, the regulators, and to HM Treasury
- Under section 213(3)(a), the scheme is required to pay claims made in connection with "regulated activities carried on by [authorised persons]"



## The FSCS (2)

FSCS's role is to protect consumers who have incurred financial losses when firms regulated by the FCA and/or PRA (and their predecessors) are unable, or likely to be unable, to pay claims against them.

FSCS comprises six different sub-schemes, namely:

- Deposits
- Life and general insurance policies
- General insurance mediation
- Investment business
- Advice and arranging of mortgage business
- Debt management



#### **FSCS Ltd**

- The Scheme Manager
- Chairman and Board
  - Independent appointments
- Audited by National Audit Office
- Statutory Immunity
- Judicial Review



#### The Rules

#### **COMP sourcebook in FCA Handbook**

- General insurance mediation
- Investment business
- Advice and arranging of mortgage business
- Debt management



#### **PRA Rulebook**

- Life and general insurance (Policyholder Protection rules)
- Deposits (Depositor Protection rules)

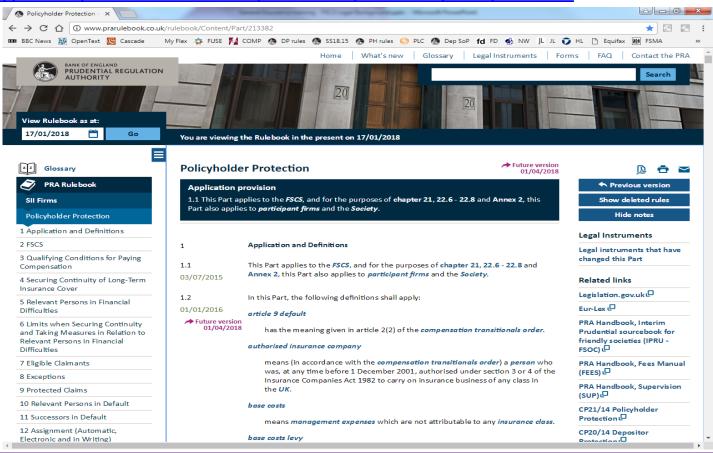




## **Policyholder Protection Rules**

### PRA Policyholder Protection Rules

http://www.prarulebook.co.uk/rulebook/Content/Part/213382





## **FSCS Coverage**

- There is no upper limit on the amount of protection
- Long-term insurance benefits are protected 100% (for claims against firms declared in default from 3 July 2015)
- Claims under compulsory insurance, professional indemnity insurance and certain claims for injury, sickness or infirmity of the policyholder are protected at 100%
- Protects 90% of other types of claim
- Coverage for natural persons and small businesses and all businesses for certain claims (compulsory insurances)



## **Policyholder Protection**

- In default unable or likely to be unable to pay claims
- Compensation
  - Indemnity claims
  - "claims falling due"
  - Return of Premium
- Continuity and Taking Measures
  - Transfer policies/substitute policies
  - Financial assistance
- Costs test



#### What we do...

#### Eligibility

- Look at whether a policyholder or claimant is eligible for FSCS protection.
- Consider position of insolvent policyholders and assess their suitability for 'TPR Validation'. This
  allows a potential claimant access to the insurance taken out by their employer despite their
  employer no longer being in existence.

#### Estate Management

- Daily liaison with the larger Estates on technical and procedural issues.
- Attend Creditor Committee Meetings.
- Build strong working relationships between FSCS, Insolvency Practitioners and Run-off Agents.
- Ensure that FSCS protection is delivered promptly where there is a valid claim.

#### Audit

- Carry out regular technical audits of Run-off Agents.
- Take part in audit of panel solicitors alongside relevant Insolvency Practitioner and Run-off Agent.
- · Conduct focussed Risk and Controls reviews at Run-off Agents.

#### Payment

Scrutinise and authorise all FSCS payments made on insolvent insurance estates.



#### **Estate Failure Activities**

- Liaise with UK Regulators (runs throughout) or Home State Regulators
- Gather Critical MI and profile the firm
- Assess levy impact
- Assess need for 'special measures'
  - Policy transfer/continuity
  - Financial Assistance for 'carrying out'
- Assess claims handling capabilities with IP
- Determine the IP process for dealing with creditors / claims going forwards
- Return of Premium Process
- Agree Claims Handling Process with IP/Run Off Agent
- Agree Payment process with IP/ROA
- Communications messages for policyholders, brokers, levypayers



## **Return of Premium ("RoP")**

- RoP may be available if policy automatically terminates, is disclaimed, or cancelled/terminated in accordance with policy terms
- RoP is calculated by the insurer and in accordance with information used by the firm to calculate the premium
- RoP is generally based upon the value of the unexpired portion of the policy; RoP compensation is paid at 90%
- FSCS is able to make assumptions on eligibility and to waive the use of Application Forms for eligibility (but must do so on a strict risk and benefits basis)
- If the policyholder funded the premium using premium finance we may be required to pay the premium finance company any return of premium
- FSCS may pay claims individually or as part of a volume payment process



## Using RoP to fund replacement cover

- Insurer or broker leads activity to identify New Carrier
- Will insurer agree that there is no value in the book (i.e. they may want to sell on the renewal rights)?
- Due diligence on New Carrier the sole responsibility of the broker
- Broker needs to ensure replacement policy on same terms as original and is suitable for policyholder (i.e. unexpired length of cover, same cover, mirrored future cancellation rights, cooling off period)
- If premium finance involved they need to agree to new cover and continuation of the loan and have new policy as their security
- Who will cancel the policies (if not automatic)?
- Cancellation and new cover dovetail and leave no gap
- What are the timescales for paying RoP? (May depend on Broker's credit terms with New Carrier)
- Use of multi party agreements FSCS, Insurer, Broker and Premium Finance (and New Carrier?)
- How will policyholders be told of what is happening to their policy?
- Is there an opt out before or after the transfer?
- Who is funding the 10% shortfall and what are the mechanics for this?



#### **Estate Closure**

- Will claims handling continue beyond Bar Date ?
- Collate Financial Information for Bar Date claim
  - Agree Bar Date Claim
  - Obtain access to critical estate information
  - Arrange for IP to load Employers Liability Records to ELTO database
  - Agree process for any on-going claims handling
    - Dovetail with end of IP process
  - Assignment of reinsurance
  - Liaise with Official Receiver
  - Recoveries
    - Dividends



## **Role of Industry**

- regular FSCS/levy payer engagement
- introduction of New Carriers
- communication of FSCS activities
- awareness of FSCS disclosure
  - Policyholder disclosure
  - FSCS "Badge"



### What has happened so far...

- » Failures relate to General Insurance
- » Largest failures to date have been Builders Accident Insurance, Chester Street Insurance Holdings, Drake , KWELM and Independent pre FSCS
- » In total, to date, the PPB/FSCS has spent **over £1.5bn** on the various insurance failures we have been involved in.
- » Seeing increasing number of cross-border insurance failures EU firms passporting to insurance UK risks
- » Below are examples of the costs, so far, of just some of the insurance failures FSCS is dealing with:

Name of company	Amount paid as at November 2019		
Chester Street	£677 m		
Builders Accident	£190 m		
Independent Insurance	£446 m		
Enterprise (cross-border Gibraltar)	£165 m		
Gable (cross-border Liechtenstein)	£57 m		
Alpha (cross-border Denmark)	£54 m (£8m recovered from DIGS)		

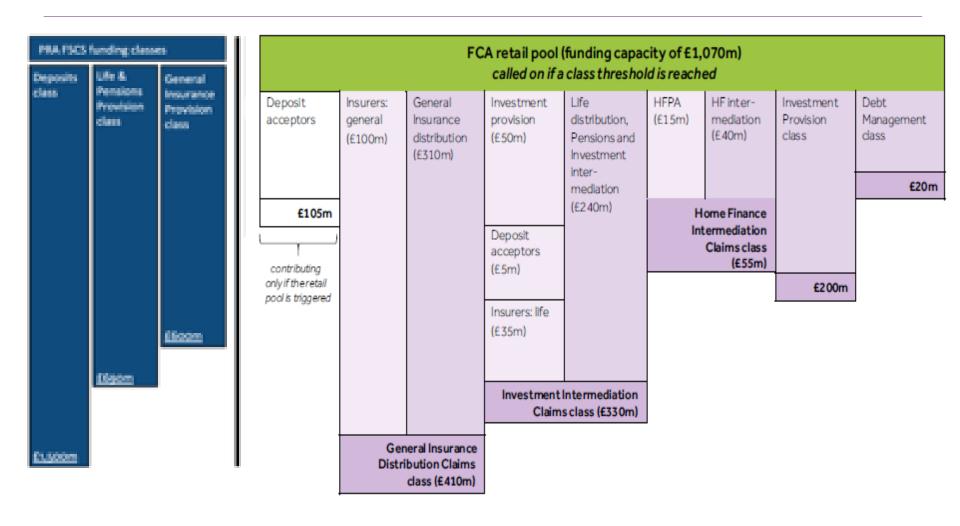


## **Funding**

- Funded by industry
- Annual 'pay as you go' levy
- No pre fund
- Recoveries
  - Subrogation/assignment of rights
  - Estate dividends schemes of arrangement



## **New Class Structure (April 2019)**





## **Policyholder Data**

- Passporting insurers with the MGA model have poor quality data
- Inhibits policy continuity or replacement option
- FSCS Guidelines
  - Data Team
  - FSCS Portal
  - Name convention
  - Bank account details
- FSCS Template (Appendix)
  - Individuals
  - Partnerships
  - Companies
  - Turnover information



## **Ongoing Issues for FSCS?**

- Increasing number and rise in costs of Asbestos related claims (i.e. mesothelioma and lung cancer)
- Risk of 'unrated 'insurance companies (including passport into UK)
- Cross-border failure with passported business in the UK liaison with other European Insurance Guarantee Schemes
- No harmonisation across the EU on insurance coverage limit or scope
- Resolution currently no UK resolution regime in place for insurers
- Brexit



## **Appendix**

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